(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The emergent needs to procure 12 Nos. 140T cranes was felt to equip the Railways in line with recommendations of the Commission of Railway Safety and especially, in the wake of Ferozabad accident. Accordingly, the Railways had decided in 1996 to invite limited tender keeping in view the standardised crane design for Indian Railways. Enquiries were not floated to M/s Jessop due to non-continuance of their technical tie up with NEI (UK) and due to non-availability of technical support from them in respect of cranes earlier purchased from them. No other established indigenous source existed for manufacture of 140T Hydraulic Cranes.

However, Sir, in view of the specific observations of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in their report No. 9 of 1999 (Railways) on this procurement issue, it has now been decided to entrust the detailed investigation into the entire affair to the Central Bureau of Investigation.

Subramaniam Committee Report on Illegal Trade in Wildlife

*226. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the salient features of the report submitted by the Subramaniam Committee which examined the issues relating to illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products; and

(b) what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The salient features of the report submitted by the Subramaniam Committee, which examined the issues relating to illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products and action taken by the Government are as follows:

S.No.	Recommendations of the Subramaniam Committee	Action taken by the Government
1.	Special measures to be taken by the Ministry of Home Affairs to clear sensitive and disturbed areas like Manas, Kaziranga and Dudhwa from the presence of militant elements.	The Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India has permitted the State Governments to utilise the central forces for providing security in the protected areas.
2.	Enlisting support and co-operation of the local people in wildlife protection and to adopt special measures to remove the feeling of	Support and co-operation of local people in wildlife protection in enlisted through the Ecodevelopment Project and Centrally Sponsored Ecodevelopment Scheme.

S.No.	Recommendations of the Subramaniam Committee	Action taken by the Government
	alienation.	
3.	Introduce dynamic management of Protect Areas to reduce crop damage and cattle killing by wild animals.	Funds are being provided under various Schemes for habital improvement and to reduce crop damage. Compensation is provided by various State Governments for cattle killed by wild animals.
4.	Use buffer zone to meet local need through Joint Forest Management and Ecodevelopment programmes.	More than 35,000 Joint Forest Management committees have been formed in different States in the country. Ecodevelopment programmes are also being implemented in and around National Parks and Sanctuaries for meeting the needs of the local people.
5.	To consider the socio-ethnic needs of the tribal and other communities during re-settlement process.	The socio-economic and ethnic requirement of tribal and other communities during voluntary relocation is taken into consideration.
6.	Create special team of armed personnel for effective patrolling in the protected areas to meet the threats from criminals.	Provision has been made for the deployment of armed squads in the disturbed and sensitive tiger reserves.
7.	Communication and transport facilities for wildlife personnel.	Funds are being provided to the State Governemnt's for wireless equipments and vehicles.
8.	Providing arms to wildlife officials for personnal protection.	Funds are allotted to the State Government for providing arms to wildlife official for personal protection.
9.	Organisation surprise checks with the assistance of the State Administration to detect transport and movement of illegal wildlife products.	Surprise checks are organised by Regional Offices with the assistance of State Administration.
10.	Launch massive campaign to give wide publicity against illegal possession of wildlife products.	Publicity material is distributed to the masses. Translites are installed at major airports and meetings are organised to give wide publicity against illegal possession of wildlife and its products.
11.	Establish system to impart	Special training courses in wildlife

S.No.	Recommendations of the Subramaniam Committee	Action taken by the Government
	comprehensive training to customs staff.	protection, law and forensic science are organised by the Wildlife Institute of India for Customs Officials.
12.	Set up Wildlife Forensic Science Unit in Wildlife Insititute of India.	A Wildlife Forensic Lab has been set up in the Wildlife Institute of India.
13.	Enlist co-operation of Non-Governmental organisation for wildlife conservation and preservation	Co-operation of eminent NGOs with proven track record is enlisted for wildlife conservation.
14.	Ensure better co-ordination between various enforcement agencies for curbing illegal trade in wildlife and its products.	i) A Special Co-ordination and Enforcement Committee has been set up in the Ministry of Environment & Forests for curbing illegal trade in wildlife and its products. ii) Special training workshop to control illegal wildlife trade is organised by Wildlife institute of India for various enforcement agencies like Customs, CBI and para-military forces.
15.	Establish a Central Task Force for prevention of crime against wildlife.	Action has been initiated to establish Special Enforcement Machanism to deal with the poaching and illegal trade in wildlife and its products.
16.	Establish a Central Wildlife Crime Data Bank to collect, collate and analyse data on wildlife.	Central Wildlife Crime Data Bank is an Integral component of Wildlife Trade Prevention and Control Bureau mentioned at serial number 15.

Recovery of Sugar from Sugarcane

*227. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that recovery of sugar from sugracane is about 9 per cent in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, as compared to 11 per cent to 13 per cent in Maharashtra and Gujarat;

(b) whether sucrose content in the sugarcane is also as low as 9 per cent;